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N.L.H.
5-503

Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-352
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Higham et al

Application No.: 10/020,389

Filed: October 30, 2001

For: ION TREATED HYDROGEL

Group Art Unit: 1732

Examiner: M. Fontaine

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GROUP 1700

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION

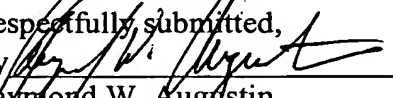
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Notice of Informal Application mailed January 17, 2002 (apparently misdated) and received by applicant's attorney on March 31, 2003, enclosed is a corrected executed Declaration, which identifies the citizenship of each inventor.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this application, she is requested to call applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000. If any additional fees are required by the present Communication, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge them to our Deposit Account No. 12-1095.

Dated: April 24, 2003

Respectfully submitted,
By 
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the date shown below.

Dated: April 24, 2003

Signature: 

(Raymond W. Augustin)



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY DOCKET NO./TITLE
10/020,389	10/30/2001	Paul Higham	OSTEONICS 3.0-352

000530
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CONFIRMATION NO. 2177



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Date Mailed: 01/17/2002

NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION

This application is considered to be informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below. The period within to correct the informalities noted below and avoid abandonment is set in the accompanying Office action.

A new oath or declaration, identifying this application number is required. The oath or declaration does not comply with 37 CFR 1.63 in that it:

- does not identify the citizenship of each inventor.

*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*

Customer Service Center

Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE